

ning of December I received a letter from M. de Champagny stating that the Emperor wished to see me in order to consult with me upon different things relating to Hamburg. In this note I was told " that the information I had obtained respecting Hamburg and the north of Germany might; In\* useful to the public interest, which must be the most gratifying reward of my labors." The reception which awaited me will presently be seen. The conclusion of the letter spoke in very flattering terms of the manner in which I had discharged my duties. I received it on the 8th of December, and the next day I set out for Paris. When I arrived at Mayenne I was enabled to form a correct idea of the fine compliments which had been paid me, and of the Emperor's anxiety to have my opinion respecting the Hanse Towns. In Mayenne I met the courier who was proceeding to announce the union of the Hanse Towns with the French Empire. I confess that, notwithstanding the experience I had acquired of Bonaparte's duplicity, or rather, of the infinite multiplicity of his artifices, he completely took me by surprise on that occasion,

On my arrival in Paris I did not see the Emperor, but the first *Moniteur* I read contained the formula of a *ti&nat.m-GQn-mlte\** which united the, Hanse Towns, Lauchburg, etc., to the French Empire by the right of the strongest. This new and important augmentation of territory could not fail to give uneasiness to Russia. Alexander manifested his dissatisfaction by prohibiting the importation of our agricultural produce and manufactures into Russia. Finally, as the Continental system had destroyed all trade by the ports of the Baltic, Russia showed herself more favorable to the English, and gradually reciprocal complaints of bad faith led to that

<sup>1</sup> On the 15th of December, 1810, a *8Enatv+4x>n\*ultA* annexed Holland, the Hanse Towns (Hamburg, Bremen, and Lübeck), Lauenburg, Oldenburg, and the north of Germany, and a *Urn\** drawn *<\*asuvard* from the junction of the Rhine and the Lippe, etc., to the Baltic. This, with previous annexation\* of the *Mid Conquests*, gave Napoleon the whole of the Continent\* except Russia, Turkey, Portugal, and the parts of Spain not occupied by his troops. It gave, however, *d«\*p* and final offense to Russia\* whose royal house was connected with